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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,669	09/29/2003	Masato Yoshino	P24073	8272
7055	7590	09/19/2005		
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE RESTON, VA 20191			EXAMINER NGUYEN, XUAN LAN T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3683	

DATE MAILED: 09/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/671,669

Applicant(s)

YOSHINO ET AL.

Examiner

Lan Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/868,633.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takata (USP 5,031,968).

Takata shows a braking system in figure 1, as in the present invention, comprising: a brake pedal 1, a stroke sensor 2 that outputs a stroke signal in response to a stroke of the brake pedal; an accumulator 5 that accumulates a pressurized braking liquid; a proportional pressure controller 9, 10, 18, 13 that controls the pressure of the pressurized braking liquid, and supplies the pressurized braking liquid to a wheel, the proportional pressure controller including a spool 9; and a push rod 8 connected to the brake pedal 1 and movable between a first position spaced from the spool as shown in figure 1; and a second position contacting the spool, see column 6, lines 12-14, wherein the push rod moves in response to the stroke of the brake pedal in order to contact and push the spool; wherein the proportional pressure controller controls the pressure of the pressurized braking liquid in accordance with the stroke signal and free from the motion of the push rod before the push rod contacts and pushes the spool, see column 4, lines 29-42 and column 6, lines 8-20, and in accordance with the stroke signal and the motion

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of the push rod after the push rod contacts and pushes the spool, see column 9, line 60 to column 10, line 8.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takata (USP 5,031,968) in view of Leiber et al. (USP 4,603,918).

Takata's braking system, as rejected in claim 1, lacks a resilient spring as a part of the push rod. Leiber et al. teach a restoring spring 35 in figure 3 in order to properly return the push rod 15 should the pressure in chamber 13 is inadequate. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Takata's braking system to have included a restoring spring such as taught by Leiber et al. in order to properly return the push rod should the pressure in the dynamic pressure chamber is inadequate to return the push rod to an original position.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are found to be non-persuasive. Applicant argues that Takata's push rod 8 would only contact spool 9 under a system failure and not for normal operation. It is believed that it

is the same for Applicant's brake system wherein push rod 118 would only contact spool 52 under a system failure and not for normal operation as stated in Applicant's Abstract as an off-powered condition. Furthermore, claim 1 does not require that the push rod contact the spool only under a system failure and not under normal operation. Applicant also argues that Takata's proportional pressure controller does not control the pressure of the braking liquid in accordance with the stroke signal and free from the motion of the push rod before the push rod contacts and pushes the spool. As stated previously and above, column 4, lines 29-42 of Takata shows that the dynamic pressure in chamber 7 is used to move spool 9 and to counteract the force of push rod 8 in the situation when push rod 8 does not contact spool 9. Takata further shows that the pedal stroke is used for normal operating condition when push rod 8 is not contacting spool 9 and also for system failure when push rod 8 is contacting spool 9 in the last four lines of the Abstract. The rejection is still deemed proper and is repeated above.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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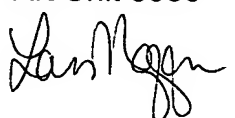
extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lan Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-7121. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Marmor can be reached on (571) 272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lan Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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 9/12/05